



Paper No. 9

MAIL**SEP 04 2001****DIRECTOR OFFICE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800**

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In re Application of :
David Banks, et al. :
Application No. 09/426,567 :
Filed: October 22, 1999 :
For: A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CREATING :
AND IMPLEMENTING ZONES WITHIN A FIBRE :
CHANNEL SYSTEM :

DECISION ON PETITION
TO MAKE SPECIAL

This is a decision on the petition filed April 24, 2000, to make the above-identified application special pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII).

In accordance with M.P.E.P. § 708.02, Item VIII, an application may be granted special status provided that the applicant complies with each of the following items: (a) submits a petition to make special accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(I); (b) presents all claims are directed to a single invention, or if the Office determines that all the claims presented are not obviously directed to a single invention, will make an election without traverse as a prerequisite to the grant of special status; (c) submits a statement(s) that a pre-examination search was made, listing of the field of search by class and subclass, publication, Chemical Abstracts, foreign patents, database search with the search terms used, etc.; (d) submits one copy of each of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims if said references are not already of record; and (e) submits a detailed discussion of the references, which discussion points out, with the particularity required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(b) and (c), how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the references.

For the above stated reasons, the petition is **GRANTED**.

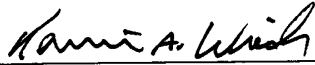
The application will retain its special status throughout its entire course of prosecution in the Patent and Trademark Office, including appeal, if any to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, subject only to diligent prosecution by the applicant.

All future communications from the Office will be directed to the above-listed address until otherwise notified by applicant. Applicant is reminded of the obligation to promptly notify the Patent and Trademark Office (Office) of any change in correspondence address to ensure receipt of all communications from the Office.

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The application file will be forwarded to the examiner for expedited prosecution.



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